

REMARKS

I. Introduction

Claims 19 to 38 are pending in the present application. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable, and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicants note with appreciation the acknowledgment of the claim for foreign priority and the indication that all copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received from the International Bureau.

Applicants thank the Examiner for considering the previously filed Information Disclosure Statement, PTO-1449 paper and cited references.

II. Objection to the Specification

As regards the objection to the Specification, the Examiner will note that the Specification has been amended herein to mention that a low-pressure fuel injection valve may operate with fuel pressures of up to 10 bar. No new matter has been added. In this regard, the Examiner's attention is respectfully directed to original claim 11. In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of this objection is respectfully directed.

III. Objection to the Drawings

As regards the objection to the drawings, the Examiner's attention is respectfully directed, for example, to Figures 1 to 4, which plainly and adequately illustrate discharge openings. There is no requirement that each and every figure illustrate each and every feature of each and every claim. Withdrawal of this objection is therefore respectfully requested.

IV. Rejection of Claims 19 to 21, 25, 26, 29 and 30 Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 19 to 21, 25, 26, 29 and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 2,914,258 ("Ruetsch"). It is respectfully submitted that Ruetsch does not anticipate the present claims for at least the following reasons.

Claim 19 recites, inter alia, a dosing device includes a nozzle body having spray discharge openings distributed over a spherical portion of the nozzle

body. The Office Action contends that Figures 1 to 3 disclose spray discharge openings distributed over a spherical portion of a nozzle body. However, any review of Figures 1 to 3 makes plain that tip 16 is not spherical but, rather, conical, terminating in a pointed tip 16. Since Ruetsch does not disclose, or even suggest, a spherical portion of a nozzle body, Ruetsch consequently fails to disclose, or even suggest, spray discharge openings distributed over a spherical portion of a nozzle body. As such, it is respectfully submitted that Ruetsch does not anticipate claim 19.

As for claims 20, 21, 25, 26, 29 and 30, which ultimately depend from claim 19, it is respectfully submitted that Ruetsch does not anticipate these dependent claims for at least the reasons more fully set forth above.

Regarding claim 26, which depends from claim 23, it is noted that claim 23 was not rejected based on Ruetsch. As such, the only reasonable conclusion to draw is that claim 23 is not considered anticipated by Ruetsch. As such, it is respectfully submitted that claim 26 is necessarily not anticipated by Ruetsch due to its dependence on claim 23.

Regarding claim 29, which depends from claim 28, it is noted that claim 28 was not rejected based on Ruetsch. As such, the only reasonable conclusion to draw is that claim 28 is not considered anticipated by Ruetsch. As such, it is respectfully submitted that claim 29 is necessarily not anticipated by Ruetsch due to its dependence on claim 28.

In view of all of the foregoing, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

V. Rejection of Claims 19 to 26, 30 and 36 Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 19 to 26, 30 and 36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 2,933,259 ("Raskin"). It is respectfully submitted that Raskin does not anticipate the present claims for at least the following reasons.

As an initial matter, it is noted that the Office Action states that claims 19 to 26, 30 and 36 are rejected but refers to claims 28 and 29 as though rejected. Thus, it is unclear as to whether claims 28 and 29 were rejected. To expedite prosecution, however, it is assumed that claims 28 and 29 were intended to be rejected. Clarification is nevertheless requested.

Claim 19 as amended herein without prejudice recites that the spray discharge openings, which are distributed over the spherical portion of the nozzle

body, open from a metering conduit directly into a metering chamber. Support for this amendment may be found, for example, in Figures 1 to 4.

Referring to, for example, Figure 2 of Raskin, it is plainly apparent that neither bores 21 nor bores 22 open from a metering conduit *directly into* a metering chamber. Rather, a gap 24 is provided between corresponding bores 21 and 22. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that Raskin does not disclose, or even suggest, all of the features of claim 19. It is therefore respectfully submitted that Raskin does not anticipate claim 19.

As for claims 20 to 26, 28 to 30 and 36, which ultimately depend from claim 19 and therefore include all of the features included in claim 19, it is respectfully submitted that Raskin does not anticipate these dependent claims for at least the reasons more fully set forth above.

In view of all of the foregoing, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

VI. Rejection of Claims 19, 21 and 37 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 19, 21 and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over the combination of Raskin and U.S. Patent No. 6,793,910 ("Lyons et al."). It is respectfully submitted that the combination of Raskin and Lyons et al. does not render unpatentable the present claims for at least the following reasons.

As an initial matter, as more fully set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that Raskin does not disclose, or even suggest, all of the features included in claim 19. Lyons et al. are not relied upon for disclosing or suggesting the features of claim 19 not disclosed or suggested by Raskin. Indeed, it is respectfully submitted that Lyons et al. do not disclose, or even suggest, the features of claim 19 not disclosed or suggested by Raskin. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the combination of Raskin and Lyons et al. does not render unpatentable claim 19 or claims 21 and 37, which depend from claim 19.

In view of all of the foregoing, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

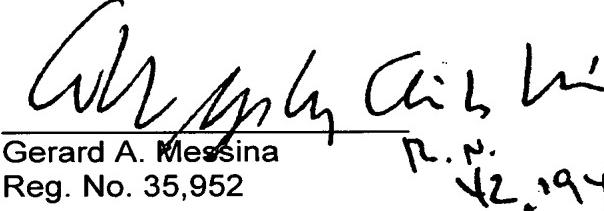
VII. Conclusion

It is therefore respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable. All issues raised by the Examiner having been addressed, an early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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